National Agriculture Policy

4149. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated its National Agriculture Policy and if so, when it is likely to be presented in parliament;

(b) whether the policy will address issues of exploitation of vast untapped potential of Indian Agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro-business, create employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and workers; and

(c) whether policy is based on future food security plan so as to double our food production and make India hunger free within ten years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) National Agriculture Policy is in the final stage of drafting.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

Modernisation of Kalpakkam Atomic Power Plant

4150. PROF. M. N. SHANKARALINGAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Kalpakkam Atomic Energy Plant in Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether sufficient safety measures are being undertaken with the plant to avoid nuclear catastrophe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Coolant Channels of MAPS-1 reactor are expected to be due for replacement during the next couple of years to enhance the life of the reactor by another 20 years. The replacement programme will be implemented during a long shut down of the plant, the timing of which will be decided based on in-service-inspection of the coolant channels. During this period, up-gradation of the safety systems of the plant installation of supplementary control room and modification of certain other systems to enhance the safety is proposed to be